FBIS DAILY REPORT

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ARGENTINA WILL NOT PARTICIPATE IN GRAIN EMBARGO OF USSR

PY102005 Buenos Aires NOTICIAS ARGENTINAS 1523 GMT 10 Jan 80 PY

[Text] The Argentine Government today proclaimed its decision not to participate in the grain embargo against the USSR ordered by the United States due to the Soviet military intervention in Afghanistan, although it did harshly condemn the USSR's attitude. The Argentine decision is contained in a communique which states that "we refuse to participate in punitive decisions or positions that have been adopted without our prior participation or which emerge from centers of decision outside the country."

On the other hand, the communique states that "however, alert to the seriousness of the events now being experienced, we will attend the meeting the United States has called to participate in the analysis of the probable development of the grain trade and naturally confirm Argentina's unchanging position in this matter."

Moreover, condemning the USSR's intervention in Afghanistan, the communique states that it was carried out "with absolute distain for all norms and principles" and "poses a serious threat to world peace."

The document stresses that the values which unite the West with Argentina "are not subject to circumstantial transactions or to opportunistic advantages," and it indicates that the determination not to participate in the U.S. initiative "responds deeply to the irrevocable traditions of our foreign policy, which is based on full respect for the sovereignty of nations and on the principle of free self-determination of peoples."

The Argentine Government's declaration also emphasizes that "we have never been in the past nor will we be in the future the agents of foreign wills or last-minute adherents to power strategies that are outside international legal order." The following is the full text of the statements:

"By calling and destiny, the Republic of Argentina is indissolubly linked with Western civilization and the outstanding values which give it its perennial existence. Those values are freedom, justice and the dignity of man, and they are not subject to circumstantial transactions or to opportunistic advantages.

"In the past few days the world has been shocked by the condemnable attitude of a power which has intervened through pure force in the internal affairs of another nation with absolute distain for all norms or principles. In view of this grave circumstance, which poses a serious threat to world peace, we cannot and do not wish to withhold our categorical response. This response is dictated not just by the present situation. It responds deeply to the irrevocable traditions of our foreign policy, which is based on full respect for the sovereignty of nations and on the principle of free self-determination of peoples.

"However, with the same emphasis and based on the same traditions, we refuse to participate in punitive decisions or positions that have been adopted without our prior participation or which emerge from centers of decision outside the country.

"We have never been in the past nor will we be in the future the agents of foreign wills or last-minute adherents to power strategies that are outside international legal order."

"Moreover, it is a constant factor in Argentine foreign policy not to use economic sanctions as a form of pressure or punishment in the sphere of political relations among countries.

"In this regard, the events affecting international order should be confronted with the appropriate specific means in accordance with the nature of the case.

"However, alert to the seriousness of the events now being experienced, we will attend the meeting called by the United States to take part in the analysis of probable developments in the grain trade and naturally confirm Argentina's unchanging position on this matter--a position which, it must remain very clear, does not agree with unilateral measures or sacrifices without fully justified motives [based on] our legitimate national interests in the context of our peace-loving relations with all countries of the world."

BRIEFS

URUGUAYAN NAVAL ATTACHE--Capt (Francisco Moliterni), Uruguayan naval attache to Argentina, visited Vice Adm Antonio Vanek, Argentine navy chief of staff, to say goodbye and introduce his successor, Capt (Nelson Barullo). [Buenos Aires Domestic Service in Spanish 1600 GMT 9 Jan 80 PY]

SALTO GRANDE DAM--The Salto Grande dam was connected today to the Argentine power system. This announcement was made in Buenos Aires by the Energy Secretariat. The connection to Buenos Aires was made through a 500-kilowatt line that runs through the southern part of the Entre Rios Province. The Salto Grande dam is capable of delivering 250 megawatts to the Argentine power system. [Montevideo Radio El Espectador Network in Spanish 1500 GMT 9 Jan 80 PY]

COST OF LIVING--Buenos Aires, 9 Jan (NA)--The Economy Ministry reported that the cost of living during December 1979 increased 4.5 percent. [Buenos Aires NOTICIAS ARGENTINAS in Spanish 1116 GMT 9 Jan 80 PY]

DIPLOMATIC RELATIONS WITH CONGO--Argentina and the People's Republic of the Congo have established diplomatic relations at the ambassadorial level through a joint communique signed by the two countries at the United Nations on 2 January 1980. [Buenos Aires LA PRENSA in Spanish 5 Jan 80 p 4 PY]

AMBASSADOR TO BOLIVIA--The Bolivian Government has agreed to the appointment of Brig Jose Maria Romero as Argentine ambassador extraordinary and plenipotentiary to Bolivia. [Buenos Aires Domestic Service in Spanish 1030 GMT 8 Jan 80 PY]

FOREIGN MINISTRY UNDER SECRETARY--Buenos Aires, 8 Jan (TELAM)--Col Carlos Alberto Nunez has been installed as the new general under secretary of the Foreign Ministry, replacing Col Ernesto Repetto Pelaez. [Buenos Aires TELAM in Spanish 1455 GMT 8 Jan 80 PY]

DELEGATION TO UN MEETING--Buenos Aires, 7 Jan (NA)--Enrique Ross, Argentine ambassador to the United Nations, has been appointed head of the Argentine delegation to the UN Human Rights Commission meeting to be held in Geneva in February. [Buenos Aires NOTICIAS ARGENTINAS in Spanish 1930 GMT 7 Jan 80 PY]

LOPEZ PORTILLO TO VISIT NICARAGUA 24 JANUARY

PA101715 Managua Radio Sandino in Spanish 0300 GMT 10 Jan 80 PA

[Text] Mexico City--Mexican President Jose Lopez Portillo will visit Nicaragua on 24 January, government sources have announced. The visit had been officially announced several months ago. Lopez Portillo will inaugurate several projects and will receive the recognition of the Nicaragun Government and people for his government's assistance to that Central American country.

Will Not Visit Guatemala

PA110433 Madrid EFE in Spanish 2050 GMT 9 Jan 80 PA

[Text] Mexico City, 9 Jan (EFE)--Reliable sources close to the government today denied that President Jose Lopez Portillo will visit Guatemala. It had been orginally rumored that the Mexican president might visit Guatemala during his trip to Nicaragua on 24 January. The sources told EFE that there are no plans for a presidential visit to Guatemala.

The announcement had even prompted Guatemalan guerrilla groups to announce that they "would use arms" against the Mexican delegation if it visited the country.

LEFT DIVIDED OVER SOVIET INVASION OF AFGHANISTAN

PA102255 Madrid EFE in Spanish 1447 GMT 10 Jan 80 PA

[Text] Mexico City, 10 Jan (EFE)--The Mexican Communist Party [PCM] expressed today its rejection of the Soviet Union's intervention in Afghanistan while two other leftist organizations justified it. Encarnacion Perez of the PCM said, "One cannot justify the invasion of a country by a superpower, regardless of the reasons presented."

The Workers Socialist Party [PST] said the Soviet Army's intervention was part of a defense plan in view of Chinese and U.S. attempts to seize the Persian Gulf and its petroleum. The USSR intervened, their communique said, at the request of the Afghan Government for aid because there was a counterrevolutionary process being led by the American CIA. The PST said in view of the circumstances existing in Afghanistan, the Soviet troops cannot leave the country until the reasons which provoked their presence have disappeared.

Francisco Artiz, spokesman of the Popular Socialist Party [PPS] said his party supports the presence of Soviet troops in Afghanistan since, he said, it was based on are request for aid by the Afghan Government.

PAPER ECHOES CONCERN OVER POSSIBLE U.S. ATTACK

PA101743 Madrid EFE in Spanish 0302 GMT 9 Jan 80 PA

[Text] Mexico City, 8 Jan (EFE)--The United States would be committing "the biggest and most tragic mistake in its history" if it attacked Mexico now, the progovernment newspaper EL DIA editorialized today.

The statement published in the morning paper reflects the concern which some Mexican circles have felt in the past few days over the stance the United States may adopt to obtain its energy supply. This concern has been increased by the announcement of U.S. plans to invade oil-producing countries.

The sensitivity of Mexican public opinion in the face of a possible U.S. attack was heightened by the publication of a report about a hypothetical armed intervention in Mexico published recently by the U.S. magazine "GALLERY."

In a lengthy editorial announced on its front page, EL DIA says that in the existing conditions of international dependency, an armed conflict between the United States and Mexico would not be limited to Mexican territory."

"Sooner or later it would extend beyond the borders and would become one of the most serious international conflicts," the paper states, voicing a warning to Washington of the error in launching an attack against Mexico.

Noting that Mexico is not a military power, the paper stated that on the other hand "it is a nation with all the guarantees of an independent state seeking to preserve its sovereignty and integrity of its territory."

"In the undesirable and extreme case," the paper says, "that (Mexico) had to face a new attack, its response would not be limited solely to its military resources...."

Last Friday local newspapers published a Washington-datelined report that the U.S. Army plans to carry out military intervention in oil countries that are attacked by other nations.

However, the unrest of the Mexicans began to grow a long time ago when after the magnitude of the country's oil reserves were announced, the U.S. Energy Department pronounced itself in favor of military action to insure oil supplies.

EL DIA, which alludes in its editorial to the U.S. invasions in 1847, 1914, and 1916, adds: "During the years or decades that are necessary," resistance would be offered like "the firm reaction of a people forced and ready to make a total sacrifice for its national existence."

EL DIA also refers to the "natural relations of solidarity" which Mexico has with all peoples of Latin America and with the people of the United States, where millions are of Mexican descent."

The Mexican newspaper wonders if the report published yesterday by "GALLERY" is "simply futurology or a flagrant threat."

OFFICIALS SAY SHAH STILL IN PANAMA

PA101810 Paris AFP in Spanish 1741 GMT 10 Jan 80 PA

[Text] Panama City, 10 Jan (AFP)--Panamanian authorities today denied the shah of Iran's transfer to Paraguay and said that he is still at Contadora Island. During the last few days there have been persistent rumors that the shah had left Panama, where he arrived on 15 December, after being treated at several hospitals in the United States.

About 200 Panamanian students today again demonstrated in Panama City protesting against the presence of the shah in Panama. The demonstration was carried out peacefully and the students dispersed in about 1 hour.

COMMENTATOR ANALYZES 'ENERGETIC' ROYO LETTER TO CARTER

PA110314 Panama City Televisora Nacional in Spanish 2315 GMT 10 Jan 80 PA

[Mario Velasquez commentary]

[Text] Reading the letter which Panamanian President Dr Aristides Royo sent to President Jimmy Carter has left me with feelings of indignation and sadness.

It saddens me that legislators of the world's primary power and the representatives of the United States' good and generous people can at a given moment be so small and stingy with a loyal and friendly nation such as Panama.

It angers me that U.S. legislators try to scoff at the 77 years of struggle and sacrifice of the Panamanian people represented in the vindications contained in the Torrijos-Carter treaties which, although they do not reflect all of the nation's objectives as we have said more than once, do constitute a step forward on the path to total recovery of Panamanian rights over the Panama Canal.

As can be deduced by the denunciation outlined by President Royo in his letter, U.S. legislators have availed themselves of tricks, playing with words, substitution of terms and illegal additions to circumvent the spirit and letter of the Torrijos-Carter treaties and invalidate a series of legitimate Panamanian victories established in those documents.

The extensive presidential letter heartily objects to Law 96-70 dated 27 September 1979 on the implementation of the treaties, which, according to Royo's letter, is not, because of its content, a legal execution instrument in line with the standards and fundamental objectives of the 1977 treaty.

The president of Panama has told President Carter that Law 96-70 radically moves away from the concept the treaty adopted with regard to the Canal Commission and has organized it as an executive agency, rigidly tying it hand and foot with administrative, economic and financial inflexibility.

From this transmutation contravening the treaty which Law 96-70 constitutes, President Royo adds, an entire series of dispositions originate which distort the nature of the Panama Canal Commission. The Panamanian Government, therefore, considers this law, in its general content, as contrary to jurisprudence and to the legitimate interests of both parties, and inadvisable because of the modus operandi it establishes. Because of all this, it is unacceptable to the Republic of Panama.

President Royo's letter, which is a precise report and record of the violations to the Torrijos-Carter treaties contained in Law 96-70 of the U.S. Congress, becomes, 3 months after these treaties went into effect, an historic document. It is, perhaps, the first in this stage of the new contractual relationship and a basis for a public denunciation which, at the same time, is the point of departure for what must be a new national struggle to achieve, as soon as possible, the modification of this law or the adoption by Carter of executive measures which will correct the errors and violations to the treaties contained in this U.S. law.

That President Royo has released to the public his letter to President Jimmy Carter is important. It is an energetic letter which reflects in dignified and proud tones the just Panamanian cause and denounces before the nation and the international public violations to the recently implemented treaties.

But this is not enough. President Royo and his government must continue their denunciation of Law 96-70, taking the justness of our cause to different levels and forums of international public opinion. President Royo and his government set for themselves the accomplishment of a new stage in the struggle for national vindication. It is the president's task to plan a strategy for a movement of solidarity and support of all Panamanians for this republic's cause.

The moment is timely because President Jimmy Carter, who clamors for justice in the face of the abduction of his fellow citizens in Iran and who has expressed his solidarity with the Afghan people suffering from aggression, cannot turn a deaf ear to this voice of protest and denunciation that is supported by the justice and reason of the Panamanian people and nation's cause.

LABOR UNIONS TO CALL NATIONAL STRIKE FOR REPEAL OF LAW 95

PA110403 Panama City Televisora Nacional in Spanish 0330 GMT 11 Jan 80 PA

[Text] The National Council of Workers [CONATO] issued a communique tonight calling for a 48-hour national strike on 28 and 29 January. The press communique reads as follows:

The CONATO delegates council agreed at tonight's meeting to call for a 48-hour national strike on 28 and 29 January.

The CONATO, composed of the Isthmian Workers Central, Confederation of Workers of the Republic of Panama, the National Central of Panamanian Workers and the independent workers' sector, which includes most of the organized labor sectors in the country, announces to the Panamanian people that it has made this decision in view of the government's and the private sector's opposition to the aspirations of the working classes toward the repeal of the nefarious Law 95, the granting of legal status to the bank workers union and other labor organizations.

This attitude violates the national Constitution and the 1972 labor code, as well as international agreements and treaties of the ILO ratified by Panama for labor union freedom and freedom of association.

CONATO notes with its usual responsibility that it will not agree to any more burdens on the cost of living and other measures affecting all the Panamanian people and will not put up with any disrespectful actions against the national labor movement or decisions affecting its interests. We appeal to all Panamanians to participate fully in the national strike on 28 and 29 January 1980.

COSTA RICA

SECURITY MINISTRY DENIES EXPELLING COMMUNIST AGENTS

PA110345 Paris AFP in Spanish 0041 GMT 11 Jan 80 PA

[Text] San Jose, 10 Jan (AFP)--The Public Security Ministry has denied here that the Costa Rican Government has expelled six international communist agents connected with diplomatic missions accredited to the country as the evening newspaper LA PRENSA LIBRE reported.

According to an official spokesman of the Public Security Ministry, these are merely simple journalistic speculations. He emphatically denied that there had been any expulsions of diplomatic personnel.

The newspaper, which attributed its report to official sources, noted that at least two persons who were connected with the Soviet Embassy and the Cuban consulate had been expelled.

A strong anticommunist campaign is being carried out in Costa Rica in the wake of a strike which has kept the banana plantations of the Standard Fruit Company paralyzed for the past 3 weeks. It was reported that international communist agents were reportedly involved in this.

It has also been stated that the business sector is exerting strong pressure on the government to break diplomatic relations with the Soviet Union and consular relations with Cuba.

MORA VALVERDE REVEALS PLOT TO OVERTHROW CARAZO GOVERNMENT

PA110343 Paris AFP in Spanish 0048 GMT 10 Jan 80 PA

[Text] San Jose, 9 Jan (AFP)--Manuel Mora Valverde, the top Costa Rican communist leader, charged here today that a plot to overthrow the Costa Rican Government exists. It is being promoted by local businessmen linked to U.S. interests. The Standard Fruit Company is also reportedly involved in it.

According to Mora Valverde's accusation, U.S. interests feel threatened by the political changes in Nicaragua and El Salvador and are determined to guarantee an open door for themselves in Costa Rica. For this reason, they are promoting the establishment of a strong government. The communist leader made these statements in a news conference held to respond to a harsh attack made against his party by President Rodrigo Carazo 2 days ago.

Carazo analyzed the economic difficulties being experienced by the country as a result of a strike declared by farm workers who have kept banana plantations of the Standard Fruit Company of Costa Rica paralyzed for the past 20 days.

On that occasion Carazo accused the Costa Rican communists, organize.. of the strike, of serving the interests of the Soviet Union and promoting the destabilization of the country's political regime.

In his reply Mora Valverde said others were conspiring and that he knew of meetings between leaders of the country's managerial sector and top Standard Fruit Company officials. He also said these officials do not like President Carazo and his security minister, Juan Jose Echeverria.

The leftist leader said important local businessmen are accusing Carazo and Echeverria of betraying their class and have criticized the government aid given to the Sandinist National Liberation Front of Nicaragua in the overthrow of the Somozist dictatorship.

Mora said the attempt to install a new government in the country is the reason for the anticommunist campaign. They are trying to create a climate which will facilitate the prohibition of unions. Mora added he has doubts about President Carazo's sincerity in his attack on the communists because Carazo knows about the conspiracy against his government. He is probably acting under pressure, Mora concluded.

GOVERNMENT TEMPORARILY ACCEPTS 150 CUBAN REFUGEES

PA101700 San Jose Radio Reloj in Spanish 1200 GMT 10 Jan 80 PA

[Text] In what has been termed an emergency operation, the Costa Rican Government has agreed to admit a total of 150 Cuban refugees, who will remain approximately 2 weeks in our country. Due to complications caused by Cuban consular authorities here, the operation was not confirmed until recently.

Only 50 of the refugees are political prisoners; the rest are relatives and friends. None of the prisoners are top-ranking political figures in Cuba, it was disclosed.

A plane of The Costa Rican airline, Lacsa, will fly to Cuba twice today to pick up the refugees. The aircraft chartered by the Intergovernmental Committee for European Migration will leave at 0500 today for Havana and should be back by noon with the first group of refugees. The second flight will take off for Havana at 1400 and should be back this evening with the rest of the refugees. Carlos Aguilar, a Foreign Ministry official, is in charge of the operation.

EL SALVADOR

ARMED FORCES ACCEPT PDC POLITICAL PLATFORM

PA101637 San Jose Radio Reloj in Spanish 1200 GMT 10 Jan 80 PA

[Text] San Salvador--The Salvadoran Armed Forces yesterday accepted the political platform submitted by the Christian Democratic Party (PDC) as a condition for its participation in a new government. By accepting the PDC's political platform, the armed forces ends a political crisis which started 10 days ago when all the members of the Cabinet resigned, claiming the political process which overthrew Gen Carlos Humberto Romero in mid-October was moving decidedly to the extreme right.

Some basic issues in the PDC's platform consist of demands that the armed forces define the rules of the game for the current political process, announce that it is antioligarchic and set new rules for the future participation of groups from private enterprise.

The armed forces yesterday afternoon appointed three civilians, two of them members of the PDC, to form a five-member government junta, it was announced here.

The armed forces hope to put an end to the political crisis which is seriously affecting the country with the appointment of the three civilians to the new Cabinet. The new members of the Cabinet are Hector Dada Hirezi and Antonio Morales Erlich, both members of PDC, and Ramon Avalos Navarrete, an independent who is not well-known.

OPPOSITION TO GOVERNMENT JUNTA INTENSIFIES

Coto Calls for Unity

PA101947 Managua Domestic Service in Spanish 1300 GMT 10 Jan 80 PA

[Text] The Salvadoran people need international solidarity in their struggle against the exploitation to which they are being subjected, Augusto Coto, representative of El Salavador's United Popular Action Front (FAPU) stated in Mexico City. At a news conference held for local and foreign newsmen, Coto said that after 50 years of struggle, intensified in the past 5 years, the Salvadoran people now have the chance to open the path to their final liberation.

The FAPU spokesman announced that a document on the unification of Salvadoran revolutionary organizations will be released tomorrow. He also announced that a popular demonstration will be staged on the 22d against the military junta led by Cols Jaime Abdul Gutierrez and Adolfo Arnoldo Majano.

According to Coto, the crisis within the junta after the resignation of its three civilian members and the almost en masse resignation of the Cabinet show the degree of internal deterioration of the Salvadoran regime.

UDN Foresees Government's 'Doom'

PA110322 Panama City ACAN in Spanish 1551 GMT 10 Jan 80 PA

[Text] San Salvador, 10 Jan (ACAN-EFE)--The leftist Nationalist Democratic Union (UDN) Party announced in a communique today it will not participate either directly or indirectly in the Christian Democratic Party [PDC] government that has been formed.

Its answer to the PDC said it would make no commitments with them since it could foresee that the planned reforms would soon be doomed to failure because of the oligarchy's opposition.

It said the reforms were also doomed to failure because the revolutionary alternative for which the majorities are struggling is becoming stronger and will become invincible due to unity of the revolutionary forces.

The UDN was part of the Cabinet that resigned last week. Minister of Labor Gabriel Gallegos Valdes, two under secretaries and two high-ranking officials in other posts are UDN members. In recent years this party had maintained close contact with the Christian Democrats to the point that in the last elections, they had run jointly as the National Opposition Union, in which the Revolutionary National Movement was also included.

Leftists To Unite Against Junta

PA110132 Panama City Televisora Nacional in Spanish 2315 GMT 10 Jan 80 PA

[Text] Seven leftist groups totaling at least 75,000 militants and guerrillas joined forces to confront the new Salvadoran military junta. The alliance will increase the problems for the coalition of military and members of the Christian Democratic Party established yesterday to try to control this Central American country which is devastated by violence.

A secret pact creating the Coordinating Committee for the Popular Unity Movement [Comite Coordinador para el Movimiento de Unidad Popular] will be signed tomorrow in the auditorium of the National University, a hall that is deteriorating and covered with political slogans and instructions on how to manufacture bombs.

The signatories will be the Peoples Revolutionary Bloc, which claims it has 30,000 members, the United Popular Action Front, which claims to have 30,000 to 40,000 members and the 28 February People Leagues, which allege to have 10,000 militants.

PCES Joins Opposition Bloc

PA110332 Panama City ACAN in Spanish 0109 GMT 11 Jan 80 PA

[Text] San Salvador, 10 Jan (ACAN-EFE)--The illegal Communist Party of El Salvador [PCES] today joined the leftist organizations uniting to gain political power through armed struggle.

The PCES joined the illegal Popular Liberation Forces and the also illegal Armed Forces of National Resistance in the creation of a revolutionary coordination organization. The PCES said the Salvadoran people have no alternative but armed struggle to obtain their final liberation.

The three organizations in a joint communique said that the people have not sought violence but that it has been forced upon them by the oligarchy. They said that during the past 24 years the people have peacefully sought the means apparently offered by the Constitution to bring about changes favoring the great majorities. The document emphasized that when the people participated in elections, they met repression and fraud and that the oligarchy, its agents and military and political instruments have blocked the peaceful paths and kept the Salvadorans from attaining their historic hopes and goals without bloodshed.

The new government revolutionary junta, organized last night and made up of three civilians and two military officers, today began talks on appointments to a government Cabinet to be revealed next weekend.

GUATEMALA

FOREIGN MINISTER VIEWS SOVIET DIPLOMATIC MISSION IN NICARAGUA

PA102344 Panama City ACAN in Spanish 1621 GMT 10 Jan 80 PA

[Text] Guatemala City, 10 Jan (ACAN-EFE)--Guatemalan Foreign Minister Rafael Castillo Valdez said here today that the government of his country has no objections to the opening of a Soviet embassy in Nicaragua. "Nicaragua is a sovereign country. It is free to decide its international policy according to its own interests," he said.

Castillo Valdez was interviewed by newsmen regarding a concern expressed in the Central American media regarding the opening of a Soviet diplomatic mission in Managua "with 100 members." The Guatemalan foreign minister noted that "Guatemala does not interfere in the domestic affairs of another state."

GOVERNMENT MINISTER'S MANAGUA TRIP CAUSES SURPRISE

PA102315 Panama City ACAN in Spanish 2033 GMT 10 Jan 80 PA

[Text] Guatemala City, 10 Jan (ACAN-EFE)--The unexpected meeting of Guatemalan Minister of Government Donaldo Alvarez Ruiz and Nicaraguan revolution strongman Tomas Borge in Managua on Tuesday has disconcerted both rightists and leftists in Guatemala today.

All newspapers in the Guatemalan capital today carry the photograph of the leader of the ruling Democratic Institutional Party (PID) with the founder of the Sandinist National Liberation Front. The papers also publish reports that Borge allegedly assured the Guatemalan minister that guerrillas were not training in Nicaragua to invade this country while Alvarez Ruiz had told the Sandinist commander that the Guatemalan Government would not allow the use of this territory as "launching ground" for a future Nicaraguan counterrevolution.

Upon returning to Guatemala yesterday afternoon, Minister Alvarez Ruiz said only that he had gone to Managua "on a good will and rapprochement visit to propose the future holding of a meeting of government ministers of Central America and Panama."

"Within a framework of pluralist respect, we Central American interior ministers have common interests, such as the struggle against crime and international narcotics trafficking," added Alvarez Ruiz.

Leaders of the left and the right today declined to comment on the meeting of the two officials until they know more about it.

Alvarez Ruiz made the visit to Managua without prior local announcement, which caused surprise in political circles.

The Guatemalan minister was very happy with his trip to the Nicaraguan capital. "I was very well received by Commander Borge, who in truth was pleased with the idea that all we interior ministers of Central America meet," he commented. He added that the ministerial meeting could take place in March in San Jose, Costa Rica.

VICE PRESIDENT VILLAGRAN KRAMER UNDER PRESSURE TO RESIGN

PA110407 Panama City ACAN in Spanish 1903 GMT 10 Jan 80 PA

[Text] Guatemala City, 10 Jan (ACAN-EFE)--Guatemalan Vice President Francisco Villagran Kramer today said he has been threatened with death unless he resigns. He added: "I will have to leave the country if I do not receive the necessary protection from the government of the republic."

Villagran Kramer, an international lawyer of Social Democratic leanings, had stated in December that he wanted to resign from the vice presidency "because he was not taken into account in the government decisionmaking." He noted that he has only been a decorative figure and that his demands for a political democratization of the country have been lost in space.

Villagran Kramer today said that he has been reconsidering his previous decision to leave the government "at the request of progressive political groups," but that he is now being pressured "by traditionalist sectors" to resign.

Villagran Kramer said the Council for Latin American Affairs in Washington has expressed fear for the security of the Guatemalan vice president.

"I have not wanted to pay any attention to the death threats I have received, but if the situation gets worse, I will have no other alternative than to seek refuge in a friendly country," he said. Villagran Kramer did not clearly explain who was threatening him with death, limiting himself to saying he had received phone calls and "friendly warnings."

HONDURAS

SANDINISTS REPORTEDLY VIOLATE HONDURAN TERRITORY

PA110032 Panama City ACAN in Spanish 1516 GMT 10 Jan 80 PA

[Text] Tegucigalpa, 10 Jan (ACAN-EFE)--Tegucigalpa's LA PRENSA charged today that patrols of the Nicaraguan Sandinist People's Army had invaded Honduran territory. The newspaper says that the territorial violation occurred in Las Limas community in the eastern El Paraiso department bordering with Nicaragua.

The newspaper report says Sandinists were seeking Ramon Zelaya, a Honduran. They went to his house but did not find him. They then looked for him in the town and returned to their base in Nicaragua.

LA PRENSA also says the military government junta's Press Secretariat and the Foreign Ministry had been queried on the matter but that those offices had no official report of the incident. "The reply we obtained," the newspaper adds, "is that if the incident did not go beyond this, it would be forgotten in order to keep relations with Nicaragua from deteriorating."

EXPELLED PRIEST TO TAKE CASE TO HUMAN RIGHTS COURT

PA100303 Panama City ACAN in Spanish 1731 GMT 9 Jan 80 PA

[Text] Tegucigalpa, 9 Jan (ACAN-EFE)--The Honduran-North American priest Guadalupe Carney who was recently accused of carrying out subversive activities and expelled from Honduras will take his case to the international human rights court which has its offices in the Costa Rican capital.

Local press reports today indicated that Carney will give a detailed account before the court in question of his persecution, harassment and subsequent deportation carried out by the Honduran Government.

The military junta expelled the priest at the request of Reyes Rodriguez Arevalo, president of the progovernment National Association of Honduran Peasants.

Carney was unexpectedly deported to the United States, his country of origin and he is residing there now. It was reported that the priest will explain to the court the "unfair motivations" which prompted his deportation.

Local lawyers who support the priest said his expulsion was a clear violation of the Constitution which protects naturalized Honduran citizens. In a reaction to Carney's deportation, Catholic Church leaders in western Honduras excommunicated the three members of the military junta 2 months ago after accusing them of violating human rights.

NICARAGUA

COVERAGE OF CEREMONY HONORING PEDRO JOAQUIN CHAMORRO

Violeta Chamorro Speech

PA102233 Managua Domestic Service in Spanish 1454 GMT 10 Jan 80 PA

[Speech by Junta of the Government of National Reconstruction member Violeta Barrios de Chamorro at a ceremony in Managua to inaugurate a new plaza named after Pedro Joaquin Chamorro on second anniversary of his death--live]

[Excerpts] Fellow countrymen, companeros: Today is a day of great emotion for us. It is with pain that I remember that Tuesday--10 January 1978. I am, however, pleased, 2 years after the murder of Pedro Joaquin, to see that his ideals have become a national reality: Nicaragua is again a republic. [applause]

Two years ago, Nicaraguans took to the streets and lost their fear of terror and tear gas. That day Nicaragua adopted the ultimate decision to recover control over its own destiny.

During the past 2 years our land has been covered with the blood of thousands of our brothers who became martyrs of freedom. Their blood served to fertilize the seed they sowed and that is sprouting in every corner of the country today. This has allowed us to pay homage to them with our daily work toward reconstruction and safeguard this free and sovereign Nicaragua.

That 10th of January is an historic date that our government of national reconstruction, the Sandinist National Liberation Front [FSLN] and our people commemorate today with this Pedro Joaquin Chamorro national and patriotic event of unity. That day served to determine the total unity of the Nicaraguans in their struggle against the dictatorship. That date marked the beginning of the popular insurrection, awoke our people who had been dormant as a result of hunger and illiteracy and moved them to struggle until death for our liberty under the guidance of our vanguard; the FSLN and its watchword of "Free Fatherland or Death." [applause]

Companeros, now that the watchword is national and patriotic unity, let us be aware that this is the historic moment for all Nicaraguans who love our fatherland to give all our support to national reconstruction. Nicaragua needs all of its children. It is the moment to strengthen nationalism before the eyes of the world which are still astounded by the firm and heroic attitude of a nation that chose between liberty and death. Unity led us to triumph and will also lead us to victory over illiteracy, hunger, poverty, unemployment and the grave problems inherited from Somoza we are now facing.

In addition to unity and everyone's effort, we need understanding. The ills of half a century cannot be remedied in 6 months. It will take us time. We are building a country and creating a new man. Let us not be confused by individualist and egotistic attitudes which attempt to protect specific interests, forgetting the well-being and the will of the people. They distort our revolutionary process, which is progressing irreversibly.

We want authorities elected in fair and honest elections and with the participation of all political sectors. This is the dream for which our people have fought for years. Their struggle and their blood obligates us and we are willing to honor that commitment. The commitment of Pedro Joaquin, sealed with his blood, is also my commitment.

Our new republic rises solidly (?under) the Junta of the Government National Reconstruction, of which I am a member. My commitment and my historic responsibility is to give Nicaragua what Pedro was unable to give.

Tomas Borge Speech

PA110125 Managua Domestic Service in Spanish 1505 GMT 10 Jan 80 PA

[Speech by Nicaraguan Interior Minister Tomas Borge at a ceremony in Managua to inaugurate a new plaza named after Pedro Joaquin Chamorro on the second anniversary of his death--live]

[Excerpts] Companera and sister Violeta Chamorro, wife of Pedro Joaquin; companeros and brothers, sons of that martyred journalist; companero members of the National Directorate of the Sandinist National Liberation Front [FSLN]; companero members of the Junta of the Government of National Reconstruction; Nicaraguan brothers:

We have often talked about Pedro Joaquin Chamorro. We have tried to give his true historical dimension. Today, 2 years after his death, we want to stress, above all, the symbol of his blood. Pedro Joaquin represented many things but, above all, he represented and still represents that imperative, that historical need that is known as the national unity of all Nicaraguans. [applause]

To think about national unity, we first had to think about the unity of the Sandinist revolutionaries. This had a historical importance that has not yet been sufficiently visualized because the unity of Sandinist revolutionaires in our country has set the best example for the Latin American peoples and probably constitutes our revolution's best contribution--its example of revolutionary unity. Latin America still has revolutionaries who, having a common enemy and sharing common interests, still fight like cats and dogs among themselves. Revolutionaries should be like doves [words indistinct] when confronting their enemies. [applause]

It is also very important to note that unity did not represent any additional forces, but rather a multiplication of revolutionary energies. Unity represented a geometric progression of our possibilities of struggle and victory. When we talk about unity, we are not talking about addition but about multiplication. I think that when Christ multiplied the loaves of bread in the desert, he was saying that the unity of the people is necessary to confront their enemies. [applause]

It is very important that we ask ourselves the reason for and the purpose of unity, as well as with whom it should be achieved. We must unite to survive, to confront our country's backwardness and poverty, to give bread, housing and land to our people--as Pedro Joaquin used to say--to distribute the country's goods. We unite for our people and our homeland in orger to preserve their recent independence and to break into a thousand pieces the chains that tied us down to Yankee imperialism. [applause; slogans]

We must unite to make a fair distribution of our basic resources, food and medicine. We must unite to cure the sick and feed the hungry. That is what unity is and that is what it is basically for--to bring culture to that thirsty desert of ignorant people, to teach the alphabet to those who do not know how to read or write. That is what unity is for. [applause] With whom should we unite? There are those who think we should unite even with the Somozists but there can be no unity between those who destroyed our soil and those who are building a new society. [applause; slogans] There can be no unity between those who long for feasts and orgies, those who are nostalgic for their privileges, and those who have renounced selfish appetites to devote ourselves completely to the cause of the workers. [applause]

Basically, unity can be achieved only with those who devote themselves as revolutionary Christians to the cause of the poor. There can be no unity with those who want to retain the rules of the past. There can be no unity with those who do not realize that the revolution is possible only within the framework set by the vanguard of the people, the FSLN. [applause]

There can be no unity with liars, the brood of vipers that Christ talked about. Christ said the mouth speaks out of the abundance of the heart. How, then, can there be unity with those vipers that are conducting campaigns against the revolution abroad? There can be no unity with those who call us, who have been profoundly respectful of human life, assassins. [applause]

There are no vanquished and victors here in Nicaragua as a document by a party known as the Democratic Conservative Party says. We could not remember that name well because we had the idea that the two traditional parties, the Nationalist Liberal Party (PLN) and Nicaraguan Conservative Party (PCN), were mere museum pieces in some corner or trash bin of history. [applause; slogans] The PLN and the PCN were parties of exploitation and oppression in Nicaragua and it is necessary to say so once and for all. [applause; cheers] The PLN were accomplices of the PCN and I do not think it was by coincidence that Pedro Joaquin Chamorro was expelled from the PCN. [applause; cheers] He was too big a man for such a narrow-minded political mentality. [applause] I regret to have to say this because we have friends among that number [laughter] but we follow principles. It is up to our people to say the last word.

They say the Sandinist Front has an organization that is both political and military. It is practically an armed party whose political heads are military. The leadership and membership of the national army are active political militants. What do you want? [indistinct shouts from the crowd] Do you agree that we should take off the uniform we won in combat [indistinct shouts from the crowd] or do you agree we keep the uniform and go off to the garrisons to (?live) like owls, leaving the possibility of political leadership posed to our organizations? [shouts of: "NO" indistinct slogans]

It has been said the Junta of the Government of National Reconstruction was not backed by all the opposition. We ask you if you agree with the presence of Alfonso Robelo, Daniel Ortega, Companera Violeta Chamorro, [shouts from the crowd] Moises Hassan and Sergio Ramirez in the government junta. [applause; shouts] There has been (?talk of) organizing peoples militias. That is true. These militias are not spelled out in the basic statute and they [words indistinct] unproductive resources. I am going to tell those gentlemen that the future militiamen who will not charge a penny and who will not cost a single cent to the state are you who are gathered here in this plaza. [applause]

The Sandinist Defense Committees [CDS] have been created without legal status. By the name Sandinist, as we pointed out, they are enmeshed in party politics. They have functions that pertain to state bodies. Everyone knows the CDS were set up by the people. Does it matter then that there is nothing written down on paper about them? What greater right can they have to exist than the fact that they stem from the people's struggle and heroism? [applause]

There is no law on the existence of the FSLN either. The Sandinist Front is nothing more than the result of revolutionary warfare during which the generous blood of the martyrs was shed. I think it does not matter either that there is no clause in any law saying that our people's vanguard, the FSLN, can continue to exist. [applause; slogans]

Why do we speak of unity? I think it is necessary to explain things because we are not demagogs and we are not politicking. Everyone can fit in this unity. Pedro Joaquin Chamorro talked about unity but not just any kind of unity. He spoke about patriotic unity.

This unity takes into account the homeland we have just acquired, because the majority of our people did not have a homeland before. Now we finally have a homeland and we are going to treat it as the apple of our eyes and it is around this homeland and in the framework of the revolution and nowhere else that unity has its place. [applause] (?We will see) the efforts of the literacy campaign, the economic recovery plan which should be an axis of unity too, and all the actions that the revolution is taking. Let us unite around those actions. Let us rally around those actions, aware that unity is based on principles and one cannot keep reliving the past. Unity must look ahead to the future and be in step with the course of history.

HUMBERTO ORTEGA DISCUSSES NEED FOR NATIONAL UNITY

PA101929 Managua Domestic Service in Spanish 1300 GMT 10 Jan 80 PA

[Excerpts] Revolutionary Comdr Companero Humberto Ortega Saavedra has discussed revolutionary unity and has pointed out that without unity, the consolidation of our revolutionary process will be more difficult. Here are his statements: [begin recording]

National unity constituted a decisive and vital factor in the success of our people's struggle against the Somozist dictatorship. National unity, particularly the unity of the working people [words indistinct] of the great national unity, has constituted a fundamental and decisive factor in all the struggles our heroic people have been waging throughout their entire history against domination, exploitation, oppression and the various internal and external [word indistinct] our people have suffered.

In order to defeat backwardness and underdevelopment we must (?make) stronger than ever, more solid than ever--like an indestructible wall--the unity of our people, and through them, the unity of the entire nation. Only in that manner will the battle against underdevelopment be won. Only in that manner will we be able to overcome the acts of aggression and the counterrevolutionary activities seeking to [words indistinct] so they can be more easily exploited and oppressed.

Only through unity can honest and honorable Nicaraguans [words indistinct] defeat counterrevolutionary activities and the traditional backwardness that [words indistinct]. Only in this manner can we gradually become less underdeveloped and achieve modern [words indistinct] economically strong and socially just, where we can all be happy. [end recording]

SANDINIST YOUTHS EXPRESS SUPPORT FOR JUNTA

PA101714 Managua Radio Sandino in Spanish 0300 GMT 10 Jan 80 PA

[Excerpt] The 19 July Sandinist Youth Movement this afternoon called on the members of the Junta of the Government of National Reconstruction. The meeting took place in the Government Palace.

Present at the meeting between the Sandinist youth and the government junta were: Violeta de Chamorro, Moises Hassan, Sergio Ramirez, and Alfonso Robelo as well as Carlos Carrion, Carmen Moreno, German Ruiz, Pedro Hurtado and Guillermo Rodriguez. The Sandinist youths expressed their total support of the actions of the government junta and their confidence that these actions will always be in keeping with the interests of the people.

JOINT STATEMENT BY FIDEL CASTRO, GEORGES MARCHAIS

LD1101125 Paris L'HUMANITE in French 4 Jan 80 p 10 LD

[Apparent text of "joint statement" issued by PCF and Secretary General G. Marchais and Fidel Castro, first secretary of the Communist Party of Cuba Central Committee, in Havana on 3 January]

[Text] Georges Marchais, secretary general of the PCF, accompanied by Maxime Gremetz, PCF Central Committee secretary, has visited Cuba at the invitation of Fidel Castro, first secretary of the Communist Party of Cuba [PCC] Central Committee.

Important Successes in Building Socialism

Despite ordeals and imperialist aggression, despite the blockade which has still not been lifted and the slander campaigns which reactionary forces intend to continue, Cuba has secured undeniable successes in building a socialist society which guarantees the progress, dignity and liberty of its people.

Subjugated and pillaged by American imperialism in the past, Cuba has since recovered its full independence. Just 140 km from the shores of the most powerful imperialism, the people and youth of Cuba are thus building the first free state in the Western Hemisphere.

In a very brief period within the span of history, the 20 years of the Cuban revolution have now triumphed over the great scourges which were overwhelming it and which are still rife in Latin America and in most developing countries: hunger and poverty. Racism and prostitution, infant mortality and endemic diseases, illiteracy and unemployment have been eliminated.

Despite the difficulties it has met, socialist Cuba's progress in the economic, social and cultural spheres, and in that of liberties are equally a cause of satisfaction and hope for French workers and youth, and of confidence in their own struggles.

The PCF resolutely supports the universal demand that a definitive end be put to the blockade carried out by the United States against Cuba, and that the Guantanamo military base and the territory it occupies should be returned unconditionally to the people and Government of Cuba.

The Positive Role of the Nonalined Movement

Cuba is today a respected nation which enjoys great international prestige. Its solidarity with the peoples of Latin America and of the world in the fight against imperialism, for democracy, liberty and development make it worthy of friendship and respect.

Cuba's important role in the success of the sixth summit of the nonalined movement and Fidel Castro's election as president of this movement bear shining testimony to this.

The sixth summit confirmed moreover the important and positive role played in the international arena by the nonalined movement and allowed it to consolidate its anti-imperialist, independent character and its cohesion.

Gratitude to the PCF

Fidel Castro showed his satisfaction at Georges Marchais' presence in Cuba and at the opportunity thus afforded to exchange once more their opinions on various questions of common interest.

He reiterated his gratitude to the PCF for its constant solidarity toward the Cuban revolution and for its tireless work for friendship between the Cuban and French people.

In this context he laid emphasis on the PCF's rich tradition of struggle wrought in the many battles for the defense of the aspirations of the working class and of the people of France, the decisive role which it has played and still plays in the political life of France and its active contribution on the international plane to peace, the peoples' liberation struggle and to socialism.

The Struggle Against Hunger, Underdevelopment and for a New International Economic Order

During their discussions, Fidel Castro and Georges Marchais gave prominence to the great questions confronting mankind, especially the distressing problems of hunger and poverty, illiteracy and health throughout the world.

An immense gulf exists between the potential for progress, in our time, and the intolerable living conditions which too many men, women and children experience in the world.

More than 400 million human beings suffer from malnutrition. Tens of millions die each year from insufficient health care. Some 900 million are illiterate. This intolerable situation is not inevitable. It is the product of the old imperialist order founded on exploitation, colonialism and neocolonialism. The multinationals' policy of industrial redeployment is appreciably aggravating these problems.

Georges Marchais and Fidel Castro, whose identity of views on these questions is deep, reaffirmed the indissoluble link between the struggle for a new international order and the efforts to wipe out these blots on humanity.

They expressed satisfaction with the increasing support which the struggle for the democratization of international relations enjoys based on the growth of the relationship of worldwide forces who favor the cause of national, social and human liberation.

Democratizing international relations requires the full recognition of the rights of each people to live in complete sovereignty, to determine their own orientation without any tutelage or unwarranted interference, and to control its own national resources.

The struggle for a new order presupposes that one reduce, then eliminate, the unequal exchange which exists in international trade, and that one revalue the price of raw materials whose purchasing power must be assured.

The current negotiations on the integrated program of basic products and the common fund of raw materials made possible by transfers of technology which would permit developing countries a greater control over their future must be completed. Fidel Castro and Georges Marchais stressed the need to complete the struggle against inequality by setting up a genuine development program for the countries of the underdeveloped world. Material and financial resources should be made available to that end.

Within that context, Georges Marchais underlined the importance of Fidel Castro's proposal in his UN speech that, in the framework of the strategy for the third decade of development which is to be debated at the extraordinary session of the UN General Assembly planned for 1980, at least $300 billion in financial, material and technical aid should be released for investment in the underdeveloped countries.

Georges Marchais emphasized that this initiative was to be welcomed and examined by the governments of developed nations, as an element of the worldwide negotiations which it has been agreed to debate anew at the 34th session of the UN General Assembly.

The struggle to apply all these measures and initiatives consistent with the various UN declarations and with the program laid down by the conference at the nonalined summit is of decisive importance for the whole of mankind.

Against the Domination of Multinationals; Convergence of the Interests of Third World Peoples and Peoples in Developed Countries

In the context of the ideological war being waged by imperialism considerable efforts are being made to portray the developing countries' legitimate demands for control over natural resources as opposing the interests of peoples in developed countries.

These campaigns, which are aimed at disguising the capitalist system's responsibility for the crisis and at discrediting the peoples' liberation movement, distort the facts. It is in the interests of all peoples and all nations for a newtype of development to be started and for a new international system to be created based on justice, equality, sovereignty and mutually advantageous cooperation in a peaceful, secure world.

Georges Marchais confirmed the PCF's desire, expressed in Mexico in 1978 and again at its 23d congress and in his Brussels speech to the African, Caribbean and Pacific Ocean countries, to extend its action at national and international levels to help uphold these great demands of our time. In the same spirit, Fidel Castro and Georges Marchais gave priority attention to the struggle for peace and disarmament. The arms race which imperialism and NATO are reviving with the decision to produce and deploy new missiles in Europe is dangerous for peace.

The frightening accumulation of increasingly sophisticated and deadly weapons is posing a serious threat to humanity. The large sums of money swallowed up in this escalation is an outrageous waste. This is a real insult to the men and women suffering from hunger and from material and intellectual poverty in the world. It is a challenge of the progress of peoples. It is in keeping with the interests of peace, security and detente that the forces of peace should mobilize in the struggle to stop this arms race and insure that effective disarmament measures are taken.

Strengthening Relations of Friendship, Solidarity and Cooperation between the PCC and the PCF

Fidel Castro and Georges Marchais reaffirmed their desire to take action to strengthen the relations of friendship and cooperation between their two peoples and two countries.

It is in the interests of both France and Cuba that they should increase their cooperation and exchanges in the economic, political, cultural and scientific spheres on the basis of mutual respect, sovereignty and advantage.

The two leaders expressed their satisfaction with progress made in relations of friendship, solidarity and cooperation between the PCC and PCF to which their regular meetings make a great contribution. To this same end they decided to continue working on the basis of their deep-seated similarity of views to further increase fraternal cooperation between the PCC and PCF in the common struggle for peace, democracy, social progress and socialism.

[Signed] Fidel Castro, First Secretary of the PCC Central Commit ee; Georges Marchais, PCF Secretary General.

NICARAGUANS TRAIN FOR CREATION OF PEOPLE'S MILITIAS

PA092100 Paris AFP in Spanish 1945 GMT 8 Jan 80 PA

[Text] Havana, 8 Jan (AFP)--A group of 120 Nicaraguan adults, selected to establish their country's future people's militias, has been in Cuba for the past 4 weeks participating in an intensive 8-week training course, reliable sources disclosed here today.

Their presence, it was explained, falls within the framework of Cuba's multifaceted cooperation with Nicaragua's Sandinist regime, which also includes the sending of 1,200 teachers, almost 200 doctors and an undetermined number of sports advisers.

Although it was not possible to learn in detail about the Nicaraguans' training program, it was learned that it is based on the Cubans' experience in organizing their own people's militias in the 1960-1965 period. It was stated here that with the creation of those militias Cuba managed to consolidate the Castro regime. The source recalled that Cuban militiamen managed to annihilate all pockets of resistance in the Escambray Mountains, in the center of the island, and that in 1962 alone they captured more than 2,000 counter-revolutionaries.

The mere existence of this particular tie, with Nicaraguans asking Cubans to direct the training of their militias, reveals the attraction Sandinists feel for Cuba's communist regime. This fascination, only 6 months after the victory over the Somoza regime, contradicts the victorious movement's denials that Sandinism is either Marxist or social democratic. The Sandinists' admiration for Fidel Castro's revolution has always been evident. The most recent evidence of this consisted of sending 26 Sandinist National Liberation Front commanders to Holguin, Cuba, to attend a ceremony commemorating the 26th anniversary of the attack on the Moncada headquarters on 26 July, an action accomplished by the incipient revolution, which had young lawyer Fidel Castro Ruz as one of its leaders. On that occasion, the Cuban leader clearly indicated the differences between the Cuban revolution and the Nicaraguan regime.

Basically, Fidel Castro stated that Nicaragua will not be another Cuba, but a new Nicaragua, and he invited all countries--the United States included--to participate in some sort of competition to help the young Sandinist regime.

Castro's declaration of intentions had an immediate effect because by the end of July the first 60 Cuban doctors and nurses had arrived in Nicaragua, followed in October by 1,200 literacy experts chosen from among 29,000 volunteers over the age of 26.

'ARAFAT MESSAGE TO CASTRO STRESSES 'MILITANT' RELATIONS

FL101228 Havana Domestic Service in Spanish 1200 GMT 10 Jan 80 FL

[Text] Yasir 'Arafat, chairman of the Palestine Liberation Organization (PLO) Executive Committee, has sent a message to our commander in chief, Fidel Castro, in which he stresses Cuba's support for the Palestinian people. The message was in reply to one sent by the president of the Cuban councils of State and Ministers to Yasir 'Arafat on the occasion of the 15th anniversary of the Palestinian revolution.

'Arafat says in his message that the militant relations between the Cuban and Palestinian peoples will be expanded for the benefit of their common struggle against Zionism, imperialism and reaction.

The chairman of the PLO Executive Committee also emphasizes Cuba's support for the Palestinian people's struggle to regain their inalienable rights to return to their homeland, self-determination and establishment of an independent state.

VIGILANTES ALERTED TO INCREASED SUBVERSIVE ACTIVITY

WA111430 London REUTER in English 1409 GMT 10 Jan 80 WA

[By Albert Clack]

[Text] Havana, Jan 10, REUTER--Overnight vigilante patrols have been stepped up here following the appearance of leaflets and posters hostile to communist President Fidel Castro. The patrols are manned by members of neighborhood "Committees for the Defense of the Revolution," founded in 1960 as a bulwark against sabotage by anti-Castro groups.

A member of a vigilante patrol told REUTERS late last night: "Yes, it is true, the patrols have been stepped up. Before it was two persons per zone; now it is two per block. We have been told to be more alert." During a midnight stroll through a densely populated city center district, two unarmed vigilantes were seen at most street corners.

The defense committees have held meetings in recent days to discuss what was billed as "an important matter." Foreign correspondents are not allowed into such meetings so it was not known whether they concerned the security measures. The boosting of the vigilantes coincides with widespread identity checks and detentions by police here in recent weeks, according to Cuban workers and students and foreign diplomats.

The crackdown is widely believed to be aimed not only at tracking down those responsible for the anti-government propaganda but also at rounding up common criminals, black marketeers and vagrants while at the same time improving police discipline. Police have been boarding buses to check identity cards, examining parcels carried by pedestrians, and stopping cars at night, workers and students say. People without documents, or with scarce goods for which they could not account, have been detained.

The crackdown has not been reported in the official Cuban press, but newspapers have published curt reminders by the Interior Ministry that the law obliges Cubans always to carry their identity cards. Diplomats say there is no indication of any large-scale organized opposition to the government.

The crackdown coincides with the appointment as interior minister of Ramiro Valdes Menendez, described by Western diplomats as a hard-liner. Mr Valdes was previously interior minister from 1961 to 1968, when the Castro government faced numerous counter-revolutionary attacks. However, a Soviet source said identity checks had already been stepped up before the return of Mr Valdes to the ministry last month.

In addition to the posters and leaflets, a clandestine radio station purporting to be located in the mountains of eastern Cuba has been broadcasting anti-Castro opinions in recent months, but some Western diplomats believe the transmissions may come from outside Cuba.

The government freed more than 3,600 political prisoners last year, leaving in jail only about 600 whom it says are the hard core.

JAMAICA

GOVERNMENT STAND AGAINST SOVIET AGGRESSION HAILED

FL091720 Kingston DAILY GLEANER in English 7 Jan 80 p 8 FL

[Editorial entitled: "A Return to Independence"]

[Text] We commend Mr Patterson, the foreign minister on his statement on the Russian invasion of Afghanistan. Though it did take the government well over a week to make up its mind, we are glad that Mr Patterson's statement of Saturday, January 5 was clear and unequivocal in its condemnation of Russia's intervention.

Mr Patterson has recognised what has been clear to most countries in the world since the end of December, that Russia's excuse that it went to the aid of Afghanistan against external aggression was a sham, and that indeed it is only Russia as an external power which has interfered with Afghanistan. We welcome Mr Patterson's affirmation that the people of Afghanistan have the right to determine their own type of government without interference.

The PNP [People's National Party] government has now moved closer to the PNP's principled stand of 1968 when it condemned "Russian style colonialism" over the Russian invasion of Czechoslovakia. And in doing so, Mr Patterson has dissociated his government from the satellite robot-like approach of our local communists who, because they have bartered their souls and minds to the Soviets have had to trot out Russia's lame excuses for its disgraceful act of imperialism against Afghanistan, a small, poor Third World country.

Let us hope that this new show of independence from Cuba and Russia, and indeed from any blocs, can be maintained by the government. Well done Mr Patterson.

ORGANIZATION CALLS FOR GREATER UNITY IN GOVERNMENT

FL091655 Kingston SUNDAY GLEANER in English 6 Jan 80 p 1 FL

[Text] The Private Sector Organisation of Jamaica [PSOJ] has called on the government to take steps to establish an administration of national unity. In a statement issued to the press and to be broadcast today on RJR [Radio Jamaica, Ltd] but rejected by the JBC's [Jamaica Broadcasting Corporation] John Maxwell, PSOJ president Carlton Alexander has said that by an administration of national unity "we mean a cabinet which will be drawn from the best brains which the country has to offer--whether they be PNP, [People's National Party] JLP [Jamaica Labor Party], nonpartisan businessmen or professionals."

The PSOJ described the crisis in the economy and placed the blame "fairly and squarely on bad management" of the country's affairs. Mr Alexander said: "Even at this time of economic crisis and short foreign exchange, we see an abundance of new cars being imported, with vast quantities of imported toys and non-essential imported items being offered for sale. Our cement industry has been all but destroyed, and when we should have built up and consolidated our sugar and banana industries, we have left these to rot, which all adds up, ladies and gentlemen, to a blatant waste of our resources because of bad management." Put country first . . .!

He called on the leaders who have the responsibility for the welfare of the people to put the country before themselves. Mr Alexander said: "If all leaders are unable to come together and the government cannot bring about national unity, if it thinks that it has done all that it can do to properly administer the affairs of Jamaica, then we make bold to say that it must admit to the nation and to itself that it has failed.

"After seven years of consecutive economic decline since 1973, after increasing the national debt tenfold to $3 billion (that is, 3,000 million dollars) and after seeing unemployment increase to almost 30 percent of the labour force, but above all to get the nation to a point where the government itself admits that the hard times of the past are but a prelude to harder times in the future. Then this, surely, is failure."

JBC Broadcasts PSOJ Statement

FL091705 Kingston DAILY GLEANER in English 7 Jan 80 pp 1, 13 FL

[Excerpt] The Jamaica Broadcasting Corporation [JBC] yesterday broadcast the statement by the Private Sector Organization of Jamaica [PSOJ] which had been rejected on Friday by Mr John Maxwell, director of public affairs for the corporation.

Asked yesterday why the corporation had had "a change of heart," the general manager, Mr Wycliffe Bennett, said there was no change of heart for there had been no controversy over the script. "It is only that the GLEANER is anxious to publish anything that it could find to embarrass the JBC," he said.

Editorial Praises PSOJ Statement

FL091700 Kingston SUNDAY GLEANER in English 6 Jan 80 p 8 FL

[Editorial entitled: "Facing the Ordeals"]

[Text] Many were under the impression that the prime minister, in naming another cabinet, would be introducing some new blood into his somewhat worn administration, men and women with a wider field of interest, more aware of the stark realities of our present situation. But what is the result? Here we find the same group, shuffled into somewhat different jobs, still sitting in the seats of the mighty, seemingly ready to continue on the same path of rhetoric, and public relation efforts with less solid achievement.

Any reasonable observers would be justified in criticising our leaders for their cavalier attitude to financial housekeeping when they look at the huge figure for supplementary estimates at a time when we should be cutting expenditure to the bone, dependent as we already are on external beneficence for our very living.

We have also had to admit to another spending spree at Christmas. It seems that we, as a people, will never learn to "cut our coat according to our cloth," will never realise (or refuse to do so) that we have been enjoined to tighten our belts and do without, in a way never before asked of us.

Perhaps the truth is that the seriousness of our position has not been presented harshly enough to the population. For when for example the prime minister speaks he spends so much time trying to pass the blame on foreign circumstances the grimness of the message of austerity is diffused and lost. Nor have our people been shown any marked example in economising from their leaders, who still seem to enjoy the good things in life and who give no marked evidence of reducing their standards, in keeping with the many sacrifices asked of the public in general.

Some actions attributable to public servants even seem to encourage spending. Who, for instance, in the trade administrator's department was responsible for bringing in all those luxuries which encumbered the shelves of some pharmacies at Christmas time, such as fancy deodorants, facial water or expensive talc powder, packaged in New York?

We do not wish to appear as spoil-sports and we recognise the local love of celebrating at Christmas but it is, alas, no time for indulging all our wishes, and simpler--and equally enjoyable--pleasures will have to suffice in our present financial crisis.

Ministers would be better occupied in keeping up public health and sanitary standards which are at present being neglected and which, in the face of probable undernourishment, we cannot dare relax.

A better administration with some new blood capable of stricter action and exhibiting a will to share sacrifices equally with the people its ministers affect to govern, would have encouraged us all to face up to the ordeals of 1980.

We therefore support the call by the private sector organisation for the prime minister to invite the leader of the opposition in an effort to set up an administration of national unity, or else go to the people in elections.

PRICE OF GASOLINE, OTHER FUELS TO INCREASE

FL091650 Kingston SUNDAY GLEANER in English 6 Jan 80 pp 1, 2 FL

[Excerpts] The price of gasolene is to be raised 20 per cent, kerosene, up to 77 per cent and cooking gas (Propane), up by 47 per cent, tomorrow.

Announcing in a nationwide broadcast last night the price increases of the first two petroleum products, Minister of Mining Mr. Horace Clarke said: "We regret the imposition of this latest round of price increases. The increases are the direct results of the OPEC decision--circumstances entirely outside our control."

The new maximum retail selling price of premium gasolene will be $4.65 a gallon--up 80 cents per gallon over the old price of $3.85. For regular gasolene, the new maximum retail selling price will be $4.55, an increase of 80 cents over the old price of $3.75.

No Tax Hike

The new maximum retail selling price of gas oil (diesel) will be $2.60 a gallon, an increase of 90 cents on the old price of $1.70. The maximum wholesale price of gas oil when delivered in bulk will be $2.24465 a gallon when sold to a retailer, a rise of 87 cents over the old price of $1.57 and $2.52 per gallon when sold to other than to a retailer, an increase of 90 cents over the old price of $1.62.

On gasolene, Mr. Clark said that the government had not increased its tax take of $1.70 per gallon. "The fact is that the government revenue on gasolene has been reduced because of less volume imported," Mr. Clarke explained.

Kerosene

The maximum retail selling price of kerosene within the urban area has increased by 74 per cent, from $1.43 per imperial gallon by $1.07 per imperial gallon to $2.50 from $1.43. The imperial quart will now cost 27 cents more (75 per cent), the new price being increased from 36 cents a quart to 63 cents. The pint will sell for 32 cents, an increase of 77 per cent or 14 cents over the old price of 18 cents.

Cooking Gas

The price of cooking gas (propane) went up a massive $17.20 (47 per cent) per 100 lb. cylinder in Zone 1, the new price now being $53.50 over the old price of $36.30.

(Zone One consists of Kingston and St. Andrew excluding Stony Hill, Red Hills, Jacks Hill and Gordon Town, but including the Porthmore communities in St. Catherine of Independence City, Edgewater, Bridgeport, Garveymeade, Westport, Water Ford, Passage Fort, Portsmouth).

Subsidy

The minister said in his broadcast that because of sharp increases by OPEC, the subsidy on diesel oil has had to be removed and the subsidy on kerosene has had to be lowered. He said the price of kerosene has had to be increased significantly because kerosene is used for fuel for aircraft. It has become one of the most expensive petroleum products and it is in short supply on the world market.

With the increase in the price of kerosene, he said, serious steps would be taken to ensure the availability of kerosene throughout Jamaica. "Every effort will be made to ensure that kerosene reaches rural consumers at the controlled price. The Jamaica Agricultural Society has agreed to help us through their islandwide organisation. The aim is that people will know where the product can be bought and at the controlled price."

MANLEY DENIES REPORT OF PUBLIC EMPLOYEE LAYOFF

FL101745 Kingston Domestic Service in English 1730 GMT 10 Jan 80 FL

[Text] Prime Minister Michael Manley has categorically stated that the government has not decided nor does it intend to lay off 11,000 public sector workers. In a statement at Jamaica House this morning, the prime minister said a report to this effect which was carried on radio yesterday and culminated in a [DAILY] GLEANER headline this morning was not true.

In setting out what took place at the meeting with trade union leaders yesterday, Dr. Manley said he went over ground covered in Montego Bay in December that efforts were being made to find all possible areas of savings, including the possibility of layoffs since public sector wages were absorbing some 70 percent of government revenue. [passage indistinct] Mr Manley said he had made it clear that neither he nor the government were prepared to approach the problem in the way that some people suggested, which was to lay off 11,000 workers and save $50 million. He said the meeting spent time discussing various approaches and he pointed out that government might have to lay off excess staff in particular areas since it could not afford to carry excess manpower. He said the government would also have to consider not filling vacancies, retirements at the normal age and similar means of reducing expenditures. The prime minister said the unions would be kept informed during the next few days as the final round of the IMF negotiations took shape.

COURT RULES 1976 ELECTION NULL AND VOID

FL101445 Kingston DAILY GLEANER in English 8 Jan 80 p 1 FL

[Excerpts] Mr. Justice Parnell has formally reported to Parliament that the election in eastern Hanover on December 15, 1976 has been declared null and void and that a vacancy has been created in that constituency of the House of Representatives. The certificate of the senior Puisne Judge in the Buck vs King election petition was delivered to the speaker of the house, the Hon. Ripton MacPherson, at Gordon House yesterday.

Mr. Basil Buck, of the Jamaica Labour Party, brought the successful petition against sitting member Dr. Aston King of the People's National Party.

BRAZIL

SALES TO USSR DO NOT MEAN APPROVAL OF INVASION

PY102226 Rio de Janeiro JORNAL DO BRASIL in Portuguese 9 Jan 80 p 10 PY

[Editorial: "A Brazilian Question"]

[Text] It is a good thing Brazil was not invited to the meeting to be held shortly in Washington to decide how the commercial boycott against the Soviet Union will be implemented. The decision to carry out a boycott came as a consequence of the Soviet Union's invasion of Afghanistan. The fact that Brazil was not invited to this meeting makes it unnecessary for it to reaffirm in an international forum what the U.S. secretary of agriculture has asserted: that our decision to sell or not to sell soybeans to the Soviet Union "is the concern of the Brazilians."

The position now adopted by Itamaraty regarding this problem is impeccable, as was the position adopted concerning the occupation of the U.S. Embassy in Tehran. It is one thing to disapprove of the violation of borders perpetrated by Soviet troops and another entirely different thing to subject Brazil's foreign trade to the most immediate interests of another country or group of countries. By making this distinction, one does nothing but acknowledge, reaffirm and practice the most elementary principle of any diplomatic strategy which requires that the foreign policy of any government should, above all, pursue and promote national interests. These are good reasons, in addition to the fact that if a country does not look after its own interests, other countries will not. Would the path ever taken by U.S. diplomacy, even most recently, prove otherwise?

The goal of the Brazilian Government's attitude--whether directly or indirectly related to oil supply and whether we like it or not--is imposed by the fact that Brazil does not have the oil it needs. Since Brazil does not have oil and as long as the situation remains thus, Brazil will have to buy it from oil-exporting countries. In view of these realities and as long as the honor and sovereignty of the nation are not at stake, anything we do that facilitates buying the oil we need on the best possible terms is right, correct and commendable; but anything we do that may threaten or hinder our oil imports is a mistake, diplomatically and politically speaking, and detrimental to the interests of the country.

Anyway, since there are many who are always ready to fish in troubled waters, Itamaraty did well in making it clear that the fact that Brazil has bought Iranian oil does not mean it approves of the violation of diplomatic extraterritoriality by some Iranian students. The same goes for the sale of Brazilian soybeans to the Soviet Union. It does not mean Brazil supports the brutal military invasion of Afghanistan.

CHILE

CHILEAN EMBASSY IN IRAN HAS SUFFERED THREE 'OFFENSES'

PY101555 Paris AFP in Spanish 1522 GMT 10 Jan 80 PY

[Text] Valparaiso, Chile, 10 Jan (AFP)--The Chilean foreign minister, Hernan Cubillos, revealed here today that the Chilean Embassy in Iran has been the object of three offenses (atentados). The foreign minister, who gave a lecture at a local university, added that the embassy in Tehran has also had its supply of water, electricity and gas cut off. Therefore, he said, the personnel have had to cut down the trees in the garden in order to obtain wood and thus keep the embassy's kitchen in service.

But, Cubillos indicated, this conflict will not change Chile's objective of maintaining steady relations with the Iranian Government.

CALL FOR END TO U.S.-LATIN AMERICAN CONFRONTATION

PY102236 Paris AFP in Spanish 2213 GMT 9 Jan 80 PY

[Text] Vina del Mar, Chile, 9 Jan (AFP)--Ernesto Videla, Chilean under secretary of foreign relations, here today called for the end "of the permanent confrontation between Latin America and the United States." Videla, a career military officer, lectured to students of 36 countries who are attending a summer school of the Chilean diplomatic academy in this Pacific Ocean resort city near Santiago.

The under secretary said that "the United States must play an important role in the unity and peace of the Americas" and called for a "frank and respectful" dialog between Washington and the governments of the continent. Videla added that the United States has an "unavoidable responsibility" in overcoming the problems of the continent, and that "a firm attitude must be adopted in this regard to stop Cuba from continuing subversive movements."

COLOMBIA

ELN MEMBERS CAPTURED TRYING TO REQUEST ASYLUM

PA092043 Paris AFP in Spanish 1446 GMT 9 Jan 80 PA

[Text] Bogota, 9 Jan (AFP)--The army arrested three Colombians, two men and one woman, who were planning to request political asylum at the Dominican Embassy here, it was learned today. According to army sources, the three admitted to being members of the communist National Liberation Army's (ELN) Pedro Leon Arboleda Command. Among those arrested is Ricardo Gomez Mendoza, who was in charge of an ELN cell and deserted the organization after being tried and sentenced to death for making several mistakes. According to the sources, the three subversives were arrested only a few meters away from the Dominican Embassy here, after the intelligence services managed to obtain a secret report.

FORMER PRIEST LED ELN GROUP RESPONSIBLE FOR KIDNAPING

PA100314 Paris AFP in Spanish 1636 GMT 8 Jan 80 PA

[Text] Bogota, 8 Jan (AFP)--The leftist guerrilla group National Liberation Army (ELN) which last Sunday kidnaped a British woman, Teleri Jones, and her son Owen in the northern Province of Cesar, was led by former Spanish priest Manuel Perez, according to military sources here today. The communist rebels, 35 in all, at first demanded 20 million pesos ransom, some $500,000, but in a letter last night reduced the figure to 12 million pesos, some $300,000, the sources added.

Security authorities investigating the kidnaping said today that Philip and Teleri Jones and their son Owen are British, but are nationalized Colombians, and have lived in the city of Ibague, in the southeast province of Tolima, for the past 20 years. They noted that the guerrillas kidnaped Teleri and her son by mistake, as they had planned to abduct members of another British family named Curry, owner of a farm in Chiriguana. The Jones' had been invited by the Curry's to spend the New Year celebration at their farm when the kidnaping took place--the second kidnaping in Colombia this year.

According to information obtained about the kidnapers' letter reducing the ransom, Mrs Teleri Jones and Owen, 16, are in good health. The authorities said that the army is conducting an operation in Cesar which will extend to the Venezuelan border in searching for the rebels, but so far even the direction they took is unknown and the area is covered by dense jungle.

ALLEGED EPL MEMBERS ARRESTED, NOT KIDNAPED

Report on 'Kidnaping'

PA092338 Bogota Cadena Radial Super in Spanish 1100 GMT 9 Jan 80 PA

[Excerpt] According to the Military Intelligence Service, two Cordoba ranchers were kidnaped last night by members of the Communist Revolutionary Armed Forces of Colombia (FARC). The kidnap victims have been identified as Guillermo Rojas Lopez and Norberto Lopez, who own two productive cattle ranches in Cordoba Department. According to a military spokesman, the rebels left messages claiming credit for the operation at the site of the abduction, but they have not yet made any demands for the release of their victims.

'Victims' Under Arrest

PA101712 Bogota Cadena Radial Super in Spanish 1100 GMT 10 Jan 80 PA

[Text] Bogota--The National Defense Ministry has announced that Guillermo Rojas Lopez and his butler have not been kidnaped but have been arrested on charges of having committed murder and of belonging to the Maoist Popular Liberation Army [EPL]. An official spokesman has stated that the two citizens have been charged with the murder of (Eldiese) Cordero. Cordero was murdered several months ago in the (Las Paisas) area, Palmira corregimiento, municipality of Sierra Alta, Cordoba Department.

CURFEW, DRY LAW CONTINUE IN TRUJILLO DUE TO VIOLENCE

PA092044 Bogota Cadena Radial Super in Spanish 1100 GMT 9 Jan 80 PA

[Text] Cali, Colombia--The curfew and dry law decreed in Trujillo municipality, northwestern Valle Department, will continue indefinitely, the authorities have announced. The measure has been implemented in this municipality due to the assassination of conservative leader Leonardo Espinosa (Casarriaga), who was attacked by two individuals as he was leaving his home.

According to official statistics, the political violence prevalent in this municipality (?at all times) has so far resulted in the assassination of at least 20 politicians, most of them conservative. It has also been learned that due to the anonymous death threats received, many coffee growers have sold their properties for any amount of money and have left Trujillo municipality. The town has been totally militarized to prevent new criminal attacks and possible disruptions of public order.

COMMUNICATION LINKS WITH DISPUTED ISLANDS TO BE INCREASED

PA102025 Bogota Radio Cadena Nacional in Spanish 1730 GMT 10 Jan 80 PA

[Text] The government announced today that it has an ambitious plan to establish telephone communications in the cays of Roncador, Serrana, Quitasueno and (Serranilla). Sovereignty over these cays is being disputed with the government junta of Nicaragua.

Guillermo Sagra Serrano, president of Colombian Telecommunications Enterprise, has stated that in less than 3 months there will be continuous communications with those small islands that are being zealously watched by Colombian war units. [as heard] The official said that the Island of Providence will also have an automatic communication service and communication links [canales] will be increased to 12. With regard to San Andres, Sagra said that the number of links will be increased from 30 to 60. He stated that these projects are part of President Turbay Ayala's sovereignty plan. This year this plan will affect Arauca, Puerto Carreno, Mitu, Puerto Leguizamo, Bahia Solano, San Vicente del Caguan and Acandi, on the border with Panama.

ECUADOR

DEMONSTRATIONS PROTEST RISING COST OF LIVING

PA101709 Quito Cadena Ecuador Radio in Spanish 1255 GMT 10 Jan 80 PA

[Excerpt] The first demonstrations staged to repudiate the price escalation and alleged increases in the cost of milk and transportation, have now somewhat tarnished the popular image of President Jaime Roldos' government 5 months after his rise to power. Hundreds of students took to the streets to protest and condemn several decisions made by the economic front, which were later denied by the region's spokesman.

The street demonstrations, the first that have taken place under this administration, were severely repelled by the police, which forcefully sought to control abuses. The students shouted condemning the rising cost of living, blocked the streets and confronted the gendarmes who, backed by water tankers and bomb throwers (?controlled) the demonstrators. (?Several) students were injured and about 30 malcontents wound up in jail.

Quito experienced moments of tension as a result of these confrontations, which seem to mark the beginning of a wave of public protests that the government has attributed to sectors that are interested in creating fake conditions of higher prices and shortages of staples. After guaranteeing the normal supply of staples, the National Public Information Secretariat condemned the stand adopted by hoarders and speculators, who have gone as far as to use the students to achieve their perverse objectives.

According to Fausto Molina, national public information secretary, the government guarantees a climate of trust and, in accordance with this, will begin meeting with several sectors, such as the unions of transporters, businessmen, and retail merchants to discuss specific problems and provide suitable solutions within a framework of reflection and workable contributions. The presidential spokesman stressed that there will be no shortage of staples such as rice because the Agriculture Ministry has an abundant reserve to satisfy the demand for a period of several months.

The government stressed that enterprises such as (ENELAC) and (ENPROVIS) will help supply and distribute the most important products. In addition, Molina went on, we will hold free fairs, which will facilitate the producers' access to the consumption centers.

Police Kill Demonstrator

PA101855 Buenos Aires LATIN in Spanish 1634 GMT 10 Jan 80 PA

[Text] Quito, 10 Jan (LATIN)--A high school student was shot to death today during violent street demonstrations in this capital, school sources reported. The student, Patricio Herman, was shot in the heart when the students clashed with the police forces which were trying to supress a demonstration, the supervisor of Mejia High School for Boys told newsmen. Other students--how many could not be determined--were also wounded, the supervisor added. The street demonstrations by high school and university students began yesterday and continued early this morning. The students are protesting the increase of prices on basic necessities.

BUCARAM, ASPIAZU, DUNN COMMENT ON 1980 BUDGET

PA102148 Quito Cadena Ecuador Radio in Spanish 1255 GMT 10 Jan 80 PA

[Felix Narvaez report]

[Excerpts] Far removed from the people's discontent and with its great political interests, the legislative branch yesterday held several meetings for various purposes. Thus, in the morning and behind his office's closed doors Assad Bucaram [president of the House of Representatives] held a long meeting with Government Minister Roberto Dunn and with Finance Minister Fernando Aspiazu to discuss the final details of the state's budget. In the afternoon Bucaram and the two ministers concluded their meeting and the Ecuadorean budget was made official. After reiterating that the honeymoon is still on, Bucaram announced his approval of the budget, which after careful studies by a legislative commission, amounts to 45 billion sucres. Only an exchange of notes is now necessary for that figure to become a law, Bucaram announced.

Satisfied with the approved figure, Finance Minister Fernando Aspiazu indicated that this budget reflects the country's economic reality:

[Begin Aspiazu recording] Do I agree with the budget figure approved by the houses? Yes, I do.

[Question] Is it a realistic budget?

[Answer] Well, it is a budget which as you know, reflects the national reality and the desire to carry out works on the part of both the executive and legislative branches. [end recording]

Once again jovial, Minister Roberto Dunn was approached by the newsmen. Closer to the people's discontent, Dunn Barreiro promised a firm response to speculators and noted a feeling of respect for the law which, in his opinion, is now beginning to be felt. The government minister affirmed that he will not permit a bus fare increase and expressed his trust that the war against speculation will be won.

GUYANA

CABINET CONSIDERING LOCAL GOVERNMENT SYSTEM

FL092047 Kingston Domestic Service in English 2030 GMT 9 Jan 80 FL

[Excerpt] The Guyana Cabinet is to consider proposals for the introduction of a 6-year system of local government in a move to give greater responsibility to people in the areas where they live. This announcement was made by Guyana's commissioner of lands and survey, Mr (T. Earl), in a recent address to a convention of the Guyana association of local authorities. Mr (Earl) explained that the foundation of the new system would be the so-called neighborhood committees, whose functions would include insuring that all lands are beneficially occupied. The committee would also monitor loans for equipment and other amenities and see to it that there is a channel for aid to farmers.

PARAGUAY

INTERIOR MINISTRY OFFICIAL DENIES RUMORS OF SHAH'S ARRIVAL

PY092215 Asuncion Radio Primero de Marzo in Spanish 2125 GMT 9 Jan 80 PY

[Text] There were insistent rumors all day today that the former shah of Iran, Mohammad Reza Pahlavi, was on his way to Paraguay.

The rumor alerted the media and created a massive mobilization of reporters, who kept a close watch on the airport in an attempt to confirm the rumor. Some media even reported that the shah was already in Asuncion as of noon today. The real situation is different. Radio Primero de Marzo talked to the under secretary of the interior, Miguel Angel Bestard, who denied the rumor and said there is no basis for it.

The arrival of an airplane from Panama created all kinds of speculation, but when it landed at the airport it turned out to be the U.S. aircraft which flies every Wednesday between Panama and Asuncion carrying supplies and the diplomatic pouch.

There was no movement of any kind in the residence of the former shah this afternoon to indicate that he had left the area. Everything is normal, a Panamanian reporter of the LA MANANA newspaper said after he telephoned Panama from this radio station. LA MANANA has a helicopter flying constantly over the former shah's residence. The pilot has not reported anything about an alleged trip of the former Iranian monarch.

VENEZUELA

SOVIET, CHINESE DIPLOMATS CITE CONTRASTING VIEWS ON AFGHANISTAN

PA102251 Madrid EFE in Spanish 0308 GMT 10 Jan 80 PA

[By Marcel Roo Gonzalez]

[Text] Caracas, 10 Jan (EFE)--While Vladimir Kiselev, Soviet charge d'affairs in Venezuela says his country is merely giving Afghanistan military aid, the Chinese ambassador to Caracas says the Soviet attitude reveals an expansionist invasion. The two diplomats, in interviews published today in EL NACIONAL, expressed the points of view of their respective countries regarding the Afghanistan situation.

According to the Soviet diplomat, Russian troops in Afghanistan will be used exclusively to reject foreign armed intervention. Kiselev said that following the April 1978 revolution, some Western countries had interfered in Afghanistan's domestic affairs. These sectors, the Russian diplomat said, promoted and incited the counterrevolution by the training of groups and detachments which were supplied with war materials.

He said that for the Soviet Union this meant that foreign sectors were attempting to prevent the process of progressive change in Afghanistan, restore the overthrown regime and establish, in that country, new bases to make up for the ones lost along the Iranian border with the Soviet Union. He said that these sectors had found an instrument in Amin, who by means of criminal actions, violations of the law and legal order, cruelty and abuse of power, was sabotaging the revolutionary ideals.

This situation, the diplomat said, caused the patriotic Afghan forces to rebel not only against foreign aggression but also against the usurper Amin, in order to restore revolutionary legality and juridical order. The Afghan Government, in view of the situation created in the country, insistently asked the Soviet Union to give urgent aid and support in the struggle against foreign aggression, Kiselev emphasized.

While the Soviet diplomat justified the Soviet action in Afghanistan, Chinese Ambassador Zheng Weizhi criticized the action harshly and called it an invasion. He said that the Afghan invasion was an important step in the Soviet Union's expansionist policy to fulfill the old tsarist dream of reaching the Indian Ocean. For Zheng Weizhi the invasion is more serious than the Czechoslovakian invasion because, in this case, the Soviet Union has not only violated sovereignty and territorial integrity, but has also threatened peace and security in the Asian region and the world.

After adding that this is another demonstration of the Soviet social-imperialism's intent to dominate the world, the Chinese diplomat said that the next victim would be Pakistan. In his opinion the invasion of Pakistan would give the Soviets a shorter route to the Persian Gulf than through Iran. Having an outlet to the Indian Ocean is part of their strategy to surround Europe, because this ocean is an important waterway for petroleum transportation. He recalled that 60 percent of the petroleum exported by Arab countries must pass through this ocean in order to reach Europe and other parts of the world. Therefore, Ambassador Zheng Weizhi believes, the Soviet move is also a preparatory step to occupying this petroleum-producing region.

AMBASSADOR TO IRAN BERZARES MORALES RECALLED

PA102221 Caracas VENPRES in Spanish 1417 GMT 10 Jan 80 PA

[Text] Caracas, 9 Jan (VENPRES)--The Venezuelan ambassador to Iran, Div Gen Agustin Berzares Morales, has returned to Venezuela, VENPRES has confirmed at the Foreign Ministry. Berzares Morales held the post long before the incidents in Iran developed into a global crisis. Obviously he is bringing firsthand information on the situation in the Mideast, especially in Tehran.

Sign of 'Concern'

PA110044 Mexico City International Service in Spanish 2245 GMT 10 Jan 80 PA

[Text] The Venezuelan Government has recalled its ambassador in Tehran, Gen Agustin Berzares. This has been construed as concern in Caracas over the unstable situation in Iran, one of the countries that Venezuelan President Luis Herrera Campins will visit during his upcoming trip to the Middle East and Africa in February. Herrera Campins will visit Nigeria, Algeria, Libya, Saudi Arabia, Qatar, the United Arab Emirates, Kuwait, Iraq, Iran and Gabon--all of Venezuela's fellow OPEC members.

PRESIDENT WILL NOT VISIT IRAN ON MIDDLE EAST TOUR

PA110318 Paris AFP in Spanish 1848 GMT 10 Jan 80 PA

[Text] Caracas, 10 Jan (AFP)--Energy and Mines Minister Humberto Calderon Berti today reported that Venezuelan President Luis Herrera Campins has decided to skip Iran in his upcoming tour of the Middle East scheduled for February.

Calderon Berti noted that the president will visit Libya, Algeria, Kuwait, the United Arab Emirates, Qatar, Saudi Arabia, Iraq and the OPEC Secretariat in Vienna in a 2-week trip.

Venezuela recalled its ambassador to Tehran, Gen Agustin Berzares for consultations on the Iranian situation. The ambassador arrived in Caracas on Wednesday and it was speculated in diplomatic circles this morning that he had recommended the postponement of the president's trip to Iran until the situation returns to normal.

Calderon Berti did not discuss the postponement and when asked if the crisis between Iran and the United States had affected Venezuelan oil, he replied: No, not in the least.